IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (New): A radio communication method of a base station used for a radio communication system employing CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) for radio access and providing multi-rate transmission, the radio communication method comprising:

step of transmitting code information by message to one of the plurality of mobile stations, sad code information for switching a first code being used to a second code;

step of transmitting timing information by message to the one of the plurality of mobile stations, said timing information including an integer representing a frame at which the first code is switched to the second code;

step of switching the first code to the second code in synchronization with switching the first code to the second code at the one of the plurality of mobile stations, and

step of receiving a completion message to indicate completion of the step of switching at the one of the plurality of mobile stations.

Claim 8 (New): The radio communication method of claim 7, the radio communication method further comprising:

step of releasing the first code.

Claim 9 (New): The radio communication method of claim 7, wherein the completion message is transmitted from the one of the plurality of mobile stations to the base station controlling apparatus.

Claim 10 (New): A radio communication method of a base station used for a radio communication system employing CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) for radio access and providing multi-rate transmission, the radio communication method comprising:

step of transmitting code information by message to one of the plurality of mobile stations, sad code information for switching a first code being used to a second code;

step of transmitting timing information by message to the one of the plurality of mobile stations, said timing information regarding timing of switching the first code to the second code;

step of switching the first code to the second code in synchronization with switching the first code to the second code at the one of the plurality of mobile stations; and

step of receiving a completion message to indicate completion of the step of switching at the one of the plurality of mobile stations.

Claim 11 (New): The radio communication method of claim 10, the radio communication method further comprising:

step of releasing the first code.

Claim 12 (New): The radio communication method of claim 10, wherein the completion message is transmitted from the one of the plurality of mobile stations to the base station controlling apparatus.

Claim 13 (New): A base station used for a radio communication system employing CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) for radio access and providing multi-rate transmission, the base station comprising:

a code switch informing unit configured to transmit code information by message to one of the plurality of mobile stations, sad code information for switching a first code being used to a second code,

a timing information sending unit configured to transmit timing information by message to the one of the plurality of mobile stations and receive a completion message to indicate completion of the stems of switching at the one of the plurality of mobile stations, said timing information including an integer representing a frame at which the first code is switched to the second code; and

a switching unit configured to switch the first code to the second code in synchronization with a switching of the first code to the second code at the one of the plurality of mobile stations.

Claim 14 (New): A base station of claim 13, wherein the first code is released after switching the first code to the second code.

Claim 15 (New): A base station of claim 13, wherein the completion message is transmitted from the one of the plurality of mobile stations to the base station controlling apparatus.

Claim 16 (New): A base station used for a radio communication system employing CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) for radio access and providing multi-rate transmission, the base station comprising:

a code switch informing unit configured to transmit code information by message to one of the plurality of mobile stations, said code information for switching a first code being used to a second code,

a timing information sending unit configured to transmit timing information by message to the one of the plurality of mobile stations and receive a completion message to indicate completion of the step of switching at the one of the plurality of mobile stations, said timing information regarding timing of switching the first code to the second code;

and

a switching unit configured to switch the first code to the second code in synchronization with a switching of the first code to the second code at the one of the plurality of mobile stations.

Claim 17 (New): A base station of claim 16, wherein the first code is released after switching the first code to the second code.

Claim 18 (New): A base station of claim 16 wherein the completion message is transmitted from the one of the plurality of mobile stations to the base station controlling apparatus.